

In the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method of operating an access system including an access server to provide access between a user system and a plurality of communication networks that provide services to a user, the method comprising:

receiving in the access server a user data packet from the user system with the user data packet including a first destination alias;

translating the user data packet into a network data packet by replacing the first destination alias with a second destination alias that relates to a destination network address that relates to a selected one communication network of the plurality of communication networks; and

routing the network data packet to the selected one communication network based on the second destination network address, wherein the translating enables communication of the user ~~network~~ data packet to the selected one communication network without inclusion of the destination network address in the user data packet.

2. - 9. (Previous cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) A software product for providing access between a user system and a plurality of communication networks that provide services to a user, the software product comprising:

access server software operational when executed by a processor to direct the processor to receive a user data packet from the user system with the user data packet including a first destination alias, translate the user data packet into a network data packet by replacing the first

destination alias with a second destination alias that relates to a destination network address that relates to a selected one communication network of the plurality of communication networks, and route the network data packet to the selected one communication network based on the destination network address, wherein the translating enables communication of the user network packet to the selected one communication network without inclusion of the destination network address in the user data packet; and

a software storage medium operational to store the access server software.

11. – 28. (Previously cancelled).

29. (Currently Amended) An access system for providing access between a user system and a plurality of communication networks that provide services to a user, the access system comprising:

an access server connected to the user system and the plurality of communication networks and configured to receive a user data packet from the user system with the user data packet including a first destination alias, generate and transmit a translation request including the first destination alias to a database system, receive a reply from the database system including a second destination alias that relates to a destination network address that relates to a selected one communication network of the plurality of communication networks, translate the user data packet into a network data packet by replacing the first destination alias with the second destination alias network address, and route the network data packet to the selected one communication network based on the second destination alias that relates to the destination network address, wherein the translating enables communication of the user ~~network data~~ packet

to the selected one communication network without inclusion of the destination network address in the user data packet; and

the database system connected to the access server and configured to receive the translation request from the access server, process the translation request to generate the second destination alias network address, and generate and transmit a reply to the access server including the second destination alias network address.

30. – 40. (Previously cancelled).

41. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising translating the user data packet according to an alias schedule.

42. (Original) The method of claim 41 wherein the alias schedule selects an alias translation according to a current time.

43. (Original) The method of claim 41 wherein the alias schedule is configurable.

44. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
generating and transmitting a translation request including the first destination alias to a database system; and
receiving a reply from the database system, with the reply including the second destination alias network address.

45. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 44 further comprising storing the second destination alias ~~network address~~ in an alias schedule.

46. (Original) The method of claim 44 wherein the generating and transmitting are performed in response to a determination that an alias translation does not exist in an alias schedule.

47. (Original) The software product of claim 10 wherein the access server software is operational when executed by the processor to direct the processor to translate the user data packet according to an alias schedule.

48. (Original) The software product of claim 47 wherein the alias schedule selects an alias translation according to a current time.

49. (Original) The software product of claim 47 wherein the alias schedule is configurable.

50. (Currently Amended) The software product of claim 10 wherein the access server software is operational when executed by the processor to direct the processor to generate and transmit a translation request including the first destination alias to a database system and receive a reply from the database system, with the reply including the second destination alias ~~network address~~.

51. (Currently Amended) The software product of claim 50 wherein the access server software is operational when executed by the processor to direct the processor to store the second destination alias network address in an alias schedule.

52. (Original) The software product of claim 50 wherein the access server software generates and transmits in response to a determination that an alias translation does not exist in an alias schedule.

53. (Original) The access system of claim 29 wherein the access server is further configured to translate the user data packet according to an alias schedule.

54. (Original) The access system of claim 53 wherein the alias schedule selects an alias translation according to a current time.

55. (Original) The access system of claim 53 wherein the alias schedule is configurable.

56. (Currently Amended) The access system of claim 29 wherein the access server is further configured to generate and transmit a translation request including the first destination alias to a database system and receive a reply from the database system, with the reply including the second destination alias network address.

57. (Currently Amended) The access system of claim 56 wherein the access server is further configured to store the second destination alias ~~network address~~ in an alias schedule.

58. (Original) The access system of claim 56 wherein the access system generates and transmits in response to a determination that an alias translation does not exist in an alias schedule.